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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/638,119	08/14/2000	Motomo Kajiura	C2405	8620

7590 11/07/2003

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EXAMINER

LEON, EDWIN A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2833

DATE MAILED: 11/07/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/638,119

Applicant(s)

KAJIURA ET AL.

Examiner

Edwin A. León

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 August 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 20-25 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 8, 9, 14-19, 26-34 and 36-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-7, 10-13, 35 and 39 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment filed August 27, 2003 in which new Claims 34-39 have been added, has been placed of record in the file as Paper No. 19.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-3, 9, 16-17, and 26-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kimura (U.S. Patent No. 6,102,708) in view of Behl (U.S. Patent No. 6,104,607). With regard to Claims 1-3, 9, 16-17 and 26-34, Kimura discloses an electrical connector system comprising: an electronic card connector (1) having an opening, between (81) and (91); a frame (12) associated with the electrical connector (1) and a transition board (260). See Figs. 2-5.

Kimura doesn't show a temperature sensor positioned to detect a temperature of a mating connector and positioned to allow insertion and removal of the mating connector from the electrical connector.

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Behl discloses an electrical connector (500) having a temperature sensor (517) positioned to directly detect a surface temperature of a mating connector (510) and positioned to allow insertion and removal of the mating connector (510) from the electrical connector (500). See Figs. 6-7.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to modify the electrical connector system of Kimura by including a temperature sensor positioned to directly detect a temperature of a mating connector and positioned to allow insertion and removal of the mating connector from the electrical connector as taught in Behl to detect overload and to shut down the system when overload takes place.

4. Claims 8, 14-15, 18-19 and 36-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kimura (U.S. Patent No. 6,102,708) in view of Behl (U.S. Patent No. 6,104,607) and Cohn et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,915,639). The combination of Kimura and Behl discloses the claimed invention except for the temperature sensor mounted to a flexible circuit being a flexible cable or a ribbon cable.

Cohn et al. discloses a flexible circuit (72), the temperature sensor (70) mounted to a flexible circuit (72) being a flexible cable (72) or a ribbon cable (72). See Fig. 6.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to modify the electrical connector system of Kimura and Behl by including the temperature sensor mounted to a flexible circuit being a flexible cable or a ribbon cable as taught in Cohn et al. to make the sensor easy to move inside the system in order to detect temperature of different sizes of mating connectors.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 4-7, 10-13, 35 and 39 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The references fail to teach, disclose, or suggest, either alone or in combination, a conductive cover having an aperture to receive the temperature sensor, the temperature sensor extending into the aperture, the mating connector comprising an electronic card and the temperature sensor comprising a plurality of wires and each wire being disposed in one of the plurality of holes and in combination with the rest of the limitations of the base and intermediate claims.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed August 27, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. In response to Applicant's arguments regarding Claims 1, 9, 16, 32 and 33 that the Behl reference doesn't show the connector being adapted to receive a mating connector and the temperature sensor positioned to detect a surface temperature of the mating connector, Applicant's attention is directed to Fig. 6 and Column 5, Lines 62-67 in which the Behl reference discloses the connector (500) being adapted to receive a mating connector (510) and the temperature sensor (517) positioned to detect a surface temperature of the mating connector (510). Applicant is

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reminded that parts 510 and 512 connect each other to form connector 500. Therefore, 510 can be considered a mating connector. It is ten Examiner's opinion that these features in combination with the teachings of the Kimura reference would read on Applicant's claims in its broadest interpretation.

Conclusion

7. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.


8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edwin A. León whose telephone number is (703) 308-6253. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 10:00-6:30.

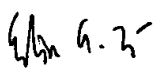
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on (703) 308-2319. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.


Gary Paumen
Primary Examiner


Edwin A. Leon
AU 2833

EAL
October 25, 2003